

REMARKS

Claims 1-43 and 58-67 were pending. Claims 68-71 have been added, and claims 1-2, 4-5, 9, 13-14, 28-30, 58, and 62 have been amended for clarification purposes. Accordingly, claims 1-43 and 58-71 remain pending subsequent entry of the present amendment.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 12-25, 28-41, and 62-66 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. New claims 70 and 71 generally correspond to allowable claims 12 and 62, respectively. New claims 68 and 69 include features of claims 12 and 62, respectively, in a manner believed to distinguish from the cited art. Support for the claim amendments is included in at least pages 16-17 of the description, as well as FIG. 19 and the accompanying description.

Claims Rejections

In the present Office Action, claims 1-11, 26-27, 42-43, 58-61 and 67 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by the Program Guide for Digital Television ATSC Standard (hereinafter "ATSC"). Applicant traverses these rejections and respectfully submits each of the pending claims recite features which are neither taught nor suggested by the cited art. Applicant requests reconsideration in view of the following discussion.

In contrast to the presently claimed invention, the cited art (ATSC) disclose a specific description as to how data is to be formatted in order to comply with the ATSC standard. Broadcasters may use the predetermined formats in order to convey data

according to the standard. An ATSC compliant receiver may then receive and process the data according to the predetermined ATSC format. In contrast, the claimed invention (e.g., claim 1) is generally directed to a receiver with a generic data processing engine which is configurable responsive to a received data format definition. By using the claimed invention, broadcasters may configure such generic receivers to receive and process data according to any desired format.

As amended, claim 1 recites a receiver comprising a generic data processing engine operable to:

“receive a format definition, wherein said format definition is indicative of a format of separately received data;
configure said engine responsive to receiving the format definition; and
process received data in accordance with the format definition.”

With respect to claim 1, it is suggested in the Office Action (page 2) that ATSC discloses a receiver operable to receive a format definition and process data according to the definition. In particular, table 5.2 on page 7 of ATSC is cited as disclosing these features. However, table 5.2 depicts a syntax for the Master Guide table. The Master Guide Table shown in the ATSC Standard document serves to inform broadcasters how they must format Master Guide Table information if it is to be interpreted correctly by a receiving device. The format definition disclosed by the ATSC standard document is provided for the benefit of broadcasters who may use the definition to ensure their data is transmitted in a compliant format. ATSC compliant receivers then receive the data and are already configured to interpret data conveyed according to the predetermined Master Guide Table format. Accordingly, rather than receiving a format definition in a receiver with a generic data processing engine and configuring the engine as recited, a broadcaster may examine the ATSC standard document and configure their transmitting related equipment to convey data according to the predetermined Master Guide Table format. Therefore, applicant submits claim 1 recites features which are not disclosed or suggested by the cited art. As claim 58 includes features similar to that of claim 1, claim 58 is believed patentably distinguished for similar reasons.

In addition to the above, the dependent claims recite additional features neither taught nor suggested by the cited art. For example, the features of new claims 68 and 69 are neither disclosed nor suggested by the cited art. Further, the definition of semantics as recited in claims 8-10, 13, 26, 27, 29, 60 and 61 is nowhere disclosed by the cited art. Rather, ATSC merely discloses a syntax for various tables. Accordingly, these dependent claims recite further features to distinguish from the cited art.

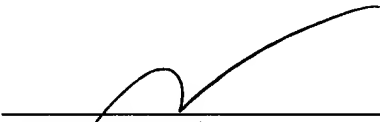
Applicant believes all claims to be in condition for allowance. However, should the examiner believe issues remain which would prevent the present application from proceeding to allowance, the below signed representative requests a phone interview in order to facilitate a more speedy resolution.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits the application is in condition for allowance, and an early notice to that effect is requested.

If any fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert, & Goetzel, P.C. Deposit Account No. 501505/5266-09300/RDR.

Respectfully submitted,



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